Ashok Paper Mill Assam

47. SHRI PRITHIBI MAJHI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the revival of Ashok Paper Mill of Assam has been discussed between State Government of Assam and the Central Government; and

(b)if so, what is the outcome thereof and what steps have been taken by Government so far to review the Ashok Paper Mill?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Central Government has offered to provide necessary assistance to the Government of Assam for the re-opening of Ashok Paper Mills, as envisaged in the Assam Accord. Consultations with the Government of Assam on the modalities for the revival and re-opening of Ashok Paper Mills are in progress.

Elections to Haryana Assembly

48. SHRI N.E. BALARAM: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) what was the reason for not conducting elections to the Haryana Assembly along with the elections to three other States Assemblies conducted on March, 23, 1987 and

(b) whether any date has been fixed for elections to the Haryana Assembly, if not what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) The work relating to the revision of electoral rolls in the State of Haryana had not been completed. The law and order situation in March, 1987 in that State was not assessed to be conducive to the holding of a free and fair elections by the authorities concerned. The present term of the Haryana Assembly is due to expire on the 23rd June, 1987. After a careful consideration of the above, the Election Commission decided to delink the elections to the Haryana Assembly from the elections held in some other States in March.

(b) No, Sir. The Election Commission is examining this matter; the election for constituting a new Legislative Assembly will however be held in time before the expiry of the term of the present assembly.

Setting up of Industries in Punjab

49. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what are the preposals submitted by the Punjab Government which are pending with the Centre for setting up new large scale and medium scale industries in the State; and

(b) what action has been taken by the Central Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b) As on 6-4-87, 16 proposals received from the Punjab State Government Undertakings under the provisions of Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951 for the grant of Industrial Licence for setting up Industries were at various stages of processing. The details of pending Industrial Licence applications are not divulged till the Government have taken final decisions thereon. It is the constant endeavour of the Government to dispose of all pending applications as expeditiously as possible. To ensure this, procedures have been streamlined.